

Application Number: 09/998,938
Amendment Dated: August 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action Dated April 12, 2005

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated April 12, 2005 for which a response was due on July 12, 2005. A Petition and fee for a one (1) month extension of time accompanies this response.

Claims 3 and 16 through 18 are pending in the present application upon entry of this amendment. Claims 3 and 16 through 18 have been amended. Specifically, claims 17 and 18, which were found to contain allowable subject matter in the Office Action dated April 12, 2005, have been amended into independent format. Claims 3 and 16 have been amended to depend from independent claims 18 and 17, respectively.

Rejected claims 1 and 15 have been cancelled in favor of the allowable subject matter contained in claims 17 and 18. Since the subject matter of claims 17 and 18 was found to be allowable by the Examiner in the Office Action dated April 12, 2005, entry of the above amended claims is believed to be warranted. Accordingly, entry of the amendments to the claims is believed warranted and is respectfully requested.

Summary of Telephone Interview Conducted on July 19, 2005:

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for participating in a telephone interview on July 19, 2005. During the interview, Applicants' undersigned attorney and Examiner Hendrickson discussed the allowable subject matter contained in claims 17 and 18, as well as the art rejections against claims 1, 3, 15 and 16 detailed in the final Office Action.

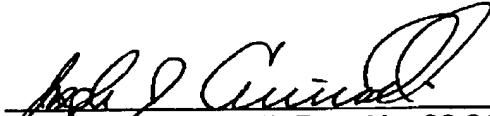
In light of the amendments to the claims the art rejections against claims 1, 3, 15 and 16 have been rendered moot. The present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

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Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the foregoing in more detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,


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